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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, June 20, 2003

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PATTERSON AND THE RARE FOUNDATION COMMEMORATE AMERICAN HEROES

LANSING – The “American Heroes Week” bill (Senate Bill 578), which establishes an act recognizing the many Americans who demonstrated heroism on September 11, 2001 and encourages academic institutions to educate children about hometown heroes and role models, unanimously passed the Senate, said Sen. Bruce Patterson (R-Canton, 7th District).

The legislation was brought to Sen. Patterson for sponsorship by RARE (Recognizing Achievement and Rewarding Excellence). RARE was formed in January of 1998. The foundation strives to celebrate unsung heroes and help children recognize that inspiring role models exist in their own communities.

“It is a pleasure to help RARE promote their message and put an emphasis on our hometown heroes,” Patterson stated. “Children need to know that even ordinary acts can be heroic. They too can be a hero in their hometown.”

“We are pleased to support Senator Patterson’s bill,” said Marnie Quinn, Executive Director of the RARE Foundation. “Children must be convinced that they don’t need to be a rock, movie or an athletic star in order to be respected, admired and successful. This bill will give educators another reason to teach positive behavior and character traits to their students.”

Another strong advocate for this bill is David Brandon, Chairman and CEO of Domino’s Pizza. “By emphasizing local community heroes we provide our children and society at large with a vision and a sense of optimism for their own capacity for individual success and achievement. I am pleased to be associated with something as positive and important as this bill.” said Brandon.

SB 578 would create a new act to establish “American Heroes Week” in Michigan. It would fall each year on the week of September 11th. The bill also provides that the Legislature recognize the many ordinary Americans who showed heroism on September 11, 2001, and the days that followed.

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